SUPPLEMENT

OF

Original Papers

AND

LETTERS.

RELATING

To the *Scots* Company Trading to *Africa* and the *Indies*.

Anno Dom. 1700.

BRITISH MUSEUM

To the Honourable

My Lord *Seafield*,

Secretary for the Kingdom of *SCOTLAND*.

My Lord,

THis is by Order of the Council General of the Company of *Scotland*, Trading to *Africa* and the *Indies*, to acquaint your Lordſhip, That we have prevail'd upon Lord *Baſil Hamilton* to be at the trouble of going up with an Addreſs to His Majeſty from our ſaid Council-General, on behalf of Captain *Rob. Pinckartan*, and Thirty more, who were wrongfully detain'd Priſoners at *Carthagena* ſince the beginning of *Feb.* laſt, and (as we are inform'd) are moſt inhumanely treated.

We are daily importun'd by their Relations (who are very conſiderable) for their Relief; and it is of great concern to our Company, that ſomething material be ſpeedily done therein, not only for the ſake of the ſaid Priſoners, but alſo that others may thereby ſee, we do not abandon the Intereſt of ſuch as engage themſelves in our Company's Service.

Lord *Baſil Hamilton* is fully inſtructed in all matters relating to the ſaid Addreſs, and other Affairs relating to our Company, of which he'll inform your Lordſhip. Wherefore we intreat that your Lordſhip be pleas'd to introduce him to His Majeſty, in preſenting of the ſaid Addreſs; and to aſſiſt him in procuring a gracious return from His Majeſty; in the confidence whereof, I remain,

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt humble

Servant,

Sedr. 4th Dec. 1699.

Yeſter, J. P. C. G.

The

The Company's Addreſs to His Majeſty.

May it pleaſe Your Majeſty,

WE your Majeſty's moſt dutiful Subjects, the Council-General of the Company of *Scotland*, Trading to *Africa* and the *Indies*, having formerly, in moſt humble manner, repreſented to your Majeſty, how that we have, with much Trouble, great Expence, and after many unexpected Stops and Difficulties, ſetled a Plantation and Colony on the North-ſide of the *Iſthmus* of *Darien*, on the Continent of *America*, preciſely in the Terms of your Majeſty's Acts of Parliament and Letters Pattent under the Great Seal of this Kingdom.

We now, in all Duty and Humility, beg leave to repreſent further to your Majeſty, That whereas in the ſaid Acts of Parliament and Letters Pattent there is a ſpecial Clauſe, by which your Majeſty is graciouſly pleas'd to promiſe, That if contrary to the Rights and Privileges therein mention'd, or contrary to the General Treaties of Peace and Commerce between your Majeſty and any Potentate Prince or State in Amity with your Majeſty, the Ships, Goods, Merchandize, Perſons, or other Effects whatſoever, belonging to the ſaid Company, ſhould happen to be ſtopp'd, detain'd, embezell'd, or taken away, or in any ſort prejudic'd or damnified, That your Majeſty would

interpoſe you Royal Authority, to have Reſtitution, Reparation, and Satisfaction made for the dammage done; and that upon the publick Charge.

And whereas likewiſe by the X and XI Articles of the Treaty concluded between the Crowns of *Great Britain* and *Spain*, at *Madrid* the $\frac{8}{18}$ day of *July* 1670. It is ſpecialy ſtipulated, that in caſe any of the Subjects of either the Confederates with their Shipping be forc'd at any time, through ſtreſs of Weather, purſute of Pyrates, or Shipwrack to retreat and enter for ſhelter, and harbour into any of the Rivers, Creeks, Bays, Havens, Roads and Ports belonging to the other in *America*, That the Perſons ſo Shipwrack'd or forced a Shoar, ſhall in no ſort be detain'd Priſoners but that on the contrary, all friendly aſſiſtance and relief ſhall be adminiſtred to their diſtreſs, both for the Suſtenance of their Perſons and reparation of their Ships and conveniency of their Voyage, and that Letters of ſafe conduct ſhall be given them, for their free and quiet paſſage thence.

Yet notwithſtanding thereof a Ship call'd the *Dolphin* belonging to our Company, being ſent from our ſaid Colony to ſome of the Leeward Iſlands, with a Cargo for buying Proviſions, and the ſaid Ship in a few days time after her going to Sea and plying to windward, for the ſpeedier paſſage ſtricking unfortunately upon a Rock, ſprung a Leak and being forced to run aſhoar, under the very Walls of *Carthagena* to eſcape Shipwrack, not only the ſaid Ship and Goods

Goods were violently ſeiz'd and diſpos'd of as prize but alſo the Men to the number of thirty, and a Boy (whoſe Names are here ſubjoyned) were detain'd and made cloſe Priſoners, contrary to the expreſs Terms of the ſaid Treaty.

Upon notice whereof, the Council of the ſaid Colony ſent, in your Majeſty's and ſaid Company's Name, a Meſſenger with a very civil Letter, to the Governor of *Carthagena*, to demand your ſaid Subjects, who were wrongfully detain'd Priſoners, as aforeſaid; and likewiſe Reſtitution of the ſaid Ship and Goods, purſuant to the Treaty above-recited; and ſent alſo Copies of the Acts of Parliament and Letters Patent above-mention'd, in *Engliſh*, *Latin*, and *Spaniſh*, for the Governors information; but inſtead of any compliance to thoſe juſt and reaſonable Demands, the Meſſenger was threatned to be put in Chains, and not ſo much as allow'd to ſee any of the ſaid Priſoners.

And being lately aſſur'd that (notwithſtanding of all endeavours hitherto us'd for their Liberation) they are, contrary to the Rules of Chriſtianity, Humanity, and the Law of Nations, ſtill detain'd Priſoners under very ſevere treatments, we think our ſelves in Duty and Conſcience bound to lay their deplorable Caſe before your Majeſty; and for that effect have commiſſioned Lord *Baſil Hamilton*, one of our number, to preſent this our humble Addreſs on their behalf to your Majeſty, and to give your Majeſty a further account of our Company's other Affairs, as he is particularly intru-

ſted therein; not doubting but that your Majeſty will, in your Royal Wiſdom, take ſpeedy and effectual Meaſures for the redreſs of thoſe Dammages, and the freedom of thoſe diſtreſſed Priſoners, in the number of which there are ſome young Gentlemen of good Quality, and related to the beſt Families in this Kingdom.

Signed at Edinburgh *the* 4th *Day of* December, 1699; *In Name, Preſence, and by Order of the ſaid Council-General, by,*

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

Your Majeſty's moſt Faithful,

moſt Dutiful, moſt Humble,

and moſt Obedient Subject and

Servant, Sic Subſcribitur,

Yeſter, J. P. C. G.

The

The Chancellours Letter to the Directors of the Company.

Holyrood-houſe, Saturday the 6*th* of *January* 1700.

Right Honorable,

HIs Majeſties Secretaries of State have acquainted me, That the King will not allow my Lord *Baſil Hamilton* acceſs to him, Becauſe he did not wait on his Majeſty when he was formerly in *London*. And that he has never ſince given any publick Evidence of his Loyalty, nor has hitherto owned and acknowledged His Majeſties Government. But his Majeſty will not refuſe to hear what my Lord *Baſil*'s Inſtructions are, and has Declared his willingneſs to be inform'd of what the Company deſires. And if my Lord *Baſil* will give in Writing to His Majeſties Secretaries, what he had to repreſent, His Majeſty will receive Information from their hands of what is Demanded, and will give his Anſwer to the Company; His Majeſty doth not refuſe to Receive the Petition, tho' he will not allow my Lord *Baſil* to be the preſenter of it. This is from

To the Right Honourable The Court of Directors of the Company of Scotland, *Trading to* Africa *and the* Indies.

Right Honorable

Your very humble Servant,
Sic ſubſcribitur

Marchmont Chancellour.

A Letter from the Directors of the Company, to the Secretaries for Scotland.

My Lord,

THE Council-General of our Company, having lately at a very frequent Meeting; thought fit to ſend up one of their own Number, with an Addreſs to His Majeſty, and with Inſtructions concerning the Contents of our Company's former Petitions; they thought that none could be more Capable to Diſcharge that Truſt, than Lord *Baſil Hamilton*, as being throughly Verſed in the courſe of the Company's Affairs, nor more acceptable to His Majeſty, as having had no objection made againſt him when he was appointed; ſeveral Lords of His Majeſties Privy Council being then preſent. And the Council-General having ſignified ſo much to your Lordſhip by a Letter, wherein they entreated; that you would be pleaſed to Introduce him to the King, and give your Concurrence in procuring a Gracious Return to what he had in Commiſſion, and which he was to Communicate to from Lordſhip. We are ſurpriz'd to find this day by a Letter to the Lord Chancellour; that the King will not allow Lord *Baſil Hamilton* to have Acceſs, becauſe he did not wait upon His Majeſty when he was formerly at *London*. But his Lordſhip being ſent by, and having his Inſtructions from the Council-General: We the Court of Directors can ſay nothing to it, other than to entreat your Lordſhip that you'd uſe your Intereſt with

His

His Majeſty, to allow Lord *Baſil Hamilton*, to have Acceſs to His Royal Perſon, leaſt the Refuſal thereof be not only a great Diſcouragement to the Company and all its Wellwiſhers, under its preſent Difficulties and repeated Misfortunes; but give alſo ground to the World, to believe that his not being allow'd Acceſs to His Majeſty, is upon the Account of his carrying an Addreſs from this Company, which every Body knows ſtands in great need of, and has a juſt Right to his Majeſties Royal Favour and Protection, And which being the General Concern of the whole Nation, is confidently expected and ſignified to your Lordſhip, by Order and in name of the Court of Directors by

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt humble Servant,

Sic Subſcribiter

Pat. Scot. I. P. C. D.

Edinbur. *the 9th day of* January, 1700.

From

From the Company, to my Lord Basil Hamilton.

My Lord,

WE have your Lordships Letter, of the 2d. Instant, by yesterdays Post in relation to the Contents of which, we send you herewith the Copy of a Letter, which we have written by this Night's Post, to both the Secretaries of State, and likewise the Copy of another Letter, which we had this morning from the Lord Chancellour upon the same head.

As our Company cannot but have a just sense of your Lordships generous condescension, to the Council-General's Request, in undertaking a troublesome Journey to *London*, this time of the Year, to wait upon and Solicite his Majesty about our Company's Affairs, with no other view but frankly to serve the Interest of your Country to the manifest neglect of your own, So we cannot but heartily regret that the carrying of the Company's Commission, should be the occasion of putting any such distinguishing Mark, upon a person of your Lordships Quality and merit, as to be denied access to His Majesties Person, because you did not wait upon His Majesty when you were formerly at *London*. No body can be so blind as not to see through this. And whereas we never could hear that your Lordship did ever any thing unworthy of your Quality, or inconsistent with the

the duty of a Loyal and Peaceable Subject. So we are ſtill hopeful, that by your own prudent management, His Majeſty may be undeceived of any miſrepreſentation, he might have had of you, and that he will yet condeſend to grant your Lordſhip acceſs to his Royal Perſon, with the Companies ſaid Addreſs, and give you a gracious Anſwer, to the Contents thereof, and to the other particulars menti-on'd in your Inſtructions; An account where-of would be very welcome News, in the midſt of our misfortunes, to the Company in general, and particularly to the Court of Directors in whoſe name, and by whoſe order this is from,

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt humble Servant,

Edinburgh *the 9th day of* January, 1700. Pat. Scot. I. P. C. D.

His Majeſties Letter to His Council of Scotland.

William R.

Sic ſupraſcribiter,

RIght Truſty and Right well Beloved Couſin and Councellor, Right Truſty and entirely beloved Couſin an Councellour, Right Truſty and well Beloved Couſins and Councellours,

cellours, Right Truſty and well Beloved Councellours, And Truſty and well Beloved Councellours, We greet you well, WHEREAS The Council-General of the Company of that our Kingdom, Trading to *Africa* and the *Indies*, By their Letter to our Secretaries of the Fourth day of *December* laſt; did deſire, That they might give their concurrence to procure a Gracious Return from Us, to the Petition which they had ſent with Lord *Baſil Hamilton*. And the ſaid Lord *Baſil*, having communicated to Our Secretaries, both the foreſaid Petition and His Inſtructions; And they having Repreſented to Us what is deſired in behalf of the ſaid Company, and We having refuſed the ſaid Lord *Baſil Hamilton* Acceſs, to preſent the foreſaid Petition to Us, for the Reaſons, We did Order Our Secretaries to Communicate to Our Chancellour; Yet We being willing to give an Anſwer to what the ſaid Company does deſire. You are therefore to call for ſome of the Council-General, and acquaint them that We are Reſolv'd in the terms of our Treaties, to demand from the King of *Spain*, that Captain *Pinkarton* and theſe of his Crew, who are detained Priſoners at *Carthagena* be Releaſed and ſet at Liberty. And you may alſo acquaint them, That our Subjects of that our Kingdom, ſhall be allowed the ſame Liberty of Trade, that others enjoy with the Engliſh Plantations; And in general, You may ſignify to them, Our Reſolution to promote and advance the Trade of the Kingdom, And the three Friggots they demand,

demand, having been given by Parliament for guarding the Trade of the Coasts, We are not resolved to dispose of them till We have the Advice of Our Parliament, And so We bid you heartily Farewe. Given at your Court at *Kensington*, the Tenth day of *January* 1700, and of our Reign the Eleventh Year, By His Majesties Command *Sic. Sub. Seafild* Directed thus, To Our Right Trusty and Right well Beloved Cousin and Councellour, Our Right Trusty and Entirely Beloved Cousin and Councellour, Our Right Trusty and well Beloved Cousins and Councellours, Our Right Trusty and well Beloved Councellours, And to our Trusty and well Beloved Councellours, *Patrick* Earl of *Marchmont* our Chancellour, and the rest of the Lords and others of our Privy Council, of our Ancient Kingdom of *Scotland*. This is a true Copy taken from the Principal and Subscribed by *Sic Subscribitur*.

Gilb. Eliot Cls. Sti. Con.

An other Letter from the Company, to my Lord Basil Hamilton.

My Lord,

YOur Lordships Letters to the Court of Directors, having been by them Communicated to us, We cannot but acknowledge, that as you have at our request Frankly undertaken a troublesome Journey and Task, to serve the Interest of your Country and our Com-

Company: So we are fully ſatisfied, that you have acquitted your ſelf with a great deal of Prudence and Diſcretion in the execution of that Charge, for which we render you moſt hearty Thanks: But finding by a Letter of the 10*th.* inſtant from His Majeſty to the Lords of His Privy Council, and by a former from the Secretaries of State, to the Lord Chancellour (Copies of both which are herewith incloſed) That His Majeſty has determin'd not to allow your Lordſhip acceſs to preſent our Addreſs, nor to impart to His Majeſty, what other things we gave you in charge by your Inſtructions. We are heartily Sorry that your Lordſhips carrying of our Addreſs, ſhould bring you under any ſuch diſagreeable circumſtances with His Majeſty. But the matter being ſo, we cannot think it juſt to detain your Lordſhip any Longer at *London*, to the neglect of your own affairs at home, and do therefore hereby ſignify that your Lordſhip may uſe your own Freedom, to take Journey homeward as ſoon as you think fit, and as may ſute beſt with your conveniency. This is in name, preſence and by order of the Council-General of our Company from

My Lord,

Your Lordſhip's moſt humble Servant,

Edinburgh *the* 29*th of* January, 1700. John Home P.

FINIS.